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Letter dated 10 August 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the escalation of the situation in the Donbas region (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andriy **Tsymbaliuk**
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Annex to the letter dated 10 August 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the escalation of the situation in the Donbas region

(10 August 2015)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine draws attention to the significant intensification in the provocations, the shelling and the targeted attacks against the positions of anti-terrorist operation forces carried out by the Russian-supported militants. In the past few days the number of attacks not only on Ukrainian military position units, but also on civilian targets, has significantly increased. The attack against the battalion tactical group, carried out by militant forces with the help of heavy armoured fighting vehicles, tanks and armoured personnel carriers, which took place on 10 August in the area of the Starohnativka settlement, is a disturbing sign of a further escalation of the situation.

The shelling, the aggressiveness of the Russian-terrorist forces and the intimidation of the observers of the Special Monitoring Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) all form part of a deliberately chosen dangerous line, aiming to stall the Minsk agreements.

On behalf of the President of Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will immediately inform the OSCE Chairman, the member States of the Normandy format oversight mechanism, the European Union and NATO of the worsening of the situation in the Donbas region and the threat of a disruption of the peace plan. We are also in constant contact with the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in order to help ensure that it can fulfil its mandate.

The Russian side must take immediate steps to stop any actions that bring destruction and death to Ukraine and that threaten the security and stability on the whole European continent.